

Chapter - 3

The Man Who Knew Too Much

1. **Professor was an epitome of perfection and knowledge but an undesirable human being. Justify the statement with reference to the chapter ‘The man who knew too much’.**

Ans:- The professor had great knowledge of the subjects taught at the training camp. He was very hard working. The training manuals were at his tongue tip. His perfect salute on the pay table was admired by all, his arm sway was perfect. His enthusiasm knew no bounds, that, after thirty miles of walk he merrily sang. He was very observant as he could identify the North American Harvard trainer without even taking a glance upwards. He could speak on any subject nonstop with perfection and with great knowledge. Undoubtedly he was well read, but unfortunately he had certain traits which made him an undesirable human being. He also made enemies. He had the most irritating habit of interfering in other’s affairs and boasting about his knowledge everywhere. He would comment on every situation without fail. This showed his immaturity and foolishness. These actions overshadowed his intelligence and knowledge so much that his fellow mates and instructors remained offended at his behavior and disliked him. Thus Private Quelch nicknamed Professor though was an epitome of knowledge and perfection remained an undesirable human being.

2. **You are a trainee in the military training camp where Private Quelch is a fellow trainee. You write a letter to your friend telling him about Private Quelch. Write the letter.**

Ans:Military Training Camp

19th Sept 2012

Dear Jack,

I received your letter just yesterday. I am sure your queries about the camp will be well satisfied once you get to know about my fellow mate Private Quelch. Private Quelch is popularly known as Professor in the camp. Well friend, this man is an epitome of knowledge and is y intelligent. I would say I also had a very good impression about this man at the beginning of the training days. His promptness and knowledge about



whatever topic been taught made him the centre of attraction and we named him Professor. A lean lanky stooping man with horn rimmed spectacles, he can recognize the type of an aero plane by its sound. Unfortunately this man could not remain in our good books for long. He has the bad habit of poking his nose in all affairs irrespective of person or place. His over enthusiasm and showy nature made him an irritating creature. Not to be forgotten is the incident of his interference in the class of Corporal Turnbull on hand grenades. He was simply punished by being transferred to cookhouse duties. The man who had come to train himself for the commission landed in the kitchen. But there too his boastful nature of knowing more than anyone did not go away. In fact we were surprised to see his equal enthusiasm in the kitchen detail as he had in any of the training classes. Whatever his negative traits may be he will definitely leave an everlasting impression on all he comes in contact with. More interesting stories about this man when we meet.

Yours

Timothy

3. **Justify the title “The Man who knew too much”**

Ans: (Hints) Appropriate and logical—Quelch’s knowledge- a surprise---his showy nature--
-air of superiority---loses sympathy--- becomes undesirable.